

PARK COMMISSION

JULY 9, 2007

The regular monthly meeting of the Park Commission was held at the Town Hall Court Room at 7:30 p.m. with the following in attendance:

Robert Ferrigno (Presiding)
Joseph DeSabia
Louann Riccio
Gene Cellini

Kevin Bellows
John Scippa
Tracy Vonick
Mr. Chmielewski (9:15 p.m.)

Also,
Town Attorney Vito Mazza
Park Superintendent Dmitri Paris
Rec. Director Mary Markham

Guests:

Art Ridolfi, 149 Killian Avenue
Mary Beth Thornton, 24 Cherry Gate Lane
Janine Salve, 178 Driftwood Lane, President of the Canoe Brook Lake Assoc.
Lisa Labella, 9 Sally Ann Drive
Mike Piquette, 18 Lantern Hill Road, Vice Pres. Ecology Committee
Diane Mayo, 26 Hickory Street
Burton Haimes, Chester Drive, Rochester, N.Y., President of AYSO Board
Rich Bushnell, 19 Camelot Road
Ned McMahon, Huntington Tpke
Joyce Parnell, 32 Oak View Street, Bpt., Area Dir. For AYSO
Bill O'Connell, 261 Edison Road
Ed Maloney, 27 Monitor Hill
Steve Wusenmany, 82 Lorma Avenue
Perry Molinoff, 39 Lafayette Drive
Joan Dosky, 20 Quaker Lane
John Dorris, 24 Baily Street
Al Watcke, 2949 Reservoir Avenue
Sharon Lomnitzer, 42 Peaceful Valley
David Allen, 91 Pembereton Drive
Steve Fisher
Beth Stoler, 92 Ridgeview Road
Roberet Wright, 78 Red Barn Road
Jim Walsy, 18 Wildwood
Jim Fracker, 78 Old Dyke Road
Fred Baker, 902 Daniels Farm Road
Greg Tilson, 194 Lake Avenue

MOTION by Mr. DeSabia, second by Mr. Scippa, and unanimously passed to change the order of the Agenda to hear guests first.

Chairman indicated that first guest for specific topic would be allowed five minutes with follow-up two/three minutes.

Art Ridolfi, 149 Killian Avenue:

Bit of a problem...Town of Trumbull no longer issues Park Stickers for the parks. Been here for 63 years, kids here and my grand kids are here...use the parks and so do I. I was at Twin Brooks on July 3rd, came across five cars at the entrance sign parked in a row. Didn't know Trumbull residents or not...who could tell. Daughter was in a park with her husband and came across guys with "doo-rags" on their heads and baggy pants down to their knees sitting in a row on top of their cars. Again, Trumbull residents or not...can't tell because no stickers on them. My bet is that they aren't. Second reason...we are over crowding. Maybe can use the parks. Found out that your Policy is to look at license at two pools. But water Park at Beach Pool has as much attraction as the pool. My daughter heard someone say that they don't have any thing like this in my town. Maybe was a guest, but maybe not...won't have a park sticker on car to check anyway. At the spray park...people sitting next to me talking about the fact that they live in Milford, kept looking around...questioned if a park ranger was going to ticket them. But...they don't ticket any way. Child said had to go to bathroom...mother said just use the water. With a 1.4 million budget to make our town nice, my tax money goes into that. I should get the use of the parks. I cannot get into another town or city and get in their parks. I called the First Selectman and haven't heard from him yet.

I checked sticker costs online. We could get them for very little money. Don't know the problem. You can issue for 2008/2009 or get them for 2007/2008 now and get the town going...even produce your own. Too expensive to administer? I went to the Recreation Department on July 5th and asked the two clerks was it really a problem to administer these when new people come into town? They said no. Or...use the Park Rangers for a couple hours a day. They aren't issuing tickets anyway. Answers are that there are other things we don't ticket for...games...but after the events we should be checking for stickers...Trumbull residents.

I used to go play tennis at night with lights by permits. Spending \$800,000 on resurfacing courts. We pay that money and others come and use them...and they will. I don't know why you let this thing go. Make your arrangements...stop by Recreation Department to pick up by a certain date or we will start ticketing again.

Mary Beth Thornton, 24 Cherry Gate Lane:

Spoke to Resolution she submitted on Great Oak Park. *"Be it resolved that the Town of Trumbull shall designate Great Oaks Park for land preservation to remain in its natural state in perpetuity and the Town of Trumbull shall record Restrictive Covenant on the Land Records to that effect"*. She went on that this piece of land is a seasonally spongy wooded area. It is a water shed for Canoe Brook Lake. She hiked the park with the Park Ranger. It is a large track of land which serves as a sponge when it rains heavily. It is a land-preserve water shed area for the benefit of Trumbull. A lot of residents dead end into the park. Canoe Brook Lake depends on that park to filter the water coming into the lake. Same conclusion, by Canoe Brook Lake Association, primarily concerned with water shed and preserving what we have. Look at the area again with concern on how it's being used and the water in that park.

Janine Salve, 178 Driftwood Lane, President of the Canoe Brook Lake Assoc.

Representing 200 families in the Great Oak and Canoe Brook Lake area. Been before your Commission before with problems. We really believe this is the life-blood for our lake. Key people from CBL Assoc. here and have major positions on their board. We wholeheartedly support anything for Trumbull. Once gone, an awful lot to lose. Follow-up. Put that issue to rest.

Lisa Labella, 9 Sally Ann Drive:

Support this proposal. My property backs up to Great Oak Park. During the last rain storm, I had flooding in my basement. Water came up to the back of our house. Flooding issue..., when we learned that this property serves as a sponge for the water. We hope you will consider this. New to many, what we learned...is the historic value in there with trees 300 years old. Think about what that means to the town and consider this resolution.

Mike Piquette, 18 Lantern Hill Road, Vice Pres. Ecology Committee:

We test for bacteria for Canoe Brook Lake and Great Oak. By time it gets to Canoe Brook Lake clearly reduces. Our lake empties into Mill River in Easton. One of ten in the State of Connecticut for Trout Fishing. One half our flow to Mill River. This park (Great Oak) is critical for Canoe Brook Lake and Mill River in Easton.

Diane Mayo, 26 Hickory Street:

On the new Youth Soccer Group. Possibility to use the fields in town. You asked us to get numbers for you and let you know what's going on. Pre-empt...are registered as a non-profit organization in Trumbull. Voted into CJSA today with 16 yes votes, 0 no votes, and I abstain. To date, we have 206 in hand, registered. We have 40 travel registrations. We have commitment of all 10 of our coaches. Our parents are taxpayers in town. We deserve the right to play there. When we gave this our final number at the end will be more than the other the. People who use those properties are children, but have the right to use them for what ever they need. A letter from Mr. Baldwin explained how we were coming from one group to another. Wished us good will and hope everything worked out. Now, in order to use fields you need to give us permission to use fields. Letter stated we are allowed to use the fields as all Trumbull organizations. He did give us permission to possibly use these fields.

Burton Haimes, Chester Drive, Rochester, N.Y., President of AYSO Board:

I will address what you just heard...the story of what you have been told.

I wrote the letter to them. Met with Al Watcke about concerns he was contributing assets to the Town of Trumbull which was not sanctioned. The reorganized AYSO group here has registered approximately 200 kids. I don't think the key issue is what kind of program you want, it's whose running that program. AYSO stands ready to run our program. There were irregularities...we tried to resolve and let people leave with dignity. Can't continue to have that kind of people lead the program. Left that decision up to you. A lot of people showing sides...want one group, want another. People become bigger than the program. We have teamed up with Trumbull United for an experimental program. Won't compete with each other. AYSO the Recreation Program. Trumbull United the Travel Program. Program had

spent over \$100,000 outsourcing for training and certain other services to one business. When we do this type of thing, we get into trouble. We are a Recreation Program. The way it should be run with volunteer coaches, volunteer training from AYSO National. You don't need professional trainers for a recreational program. Board reconstituted people who stayed away from the program in the past. AYSO declined in numbers. Need to open it up again. Need to make it transparent. Any parents who don't get a refund, they are welcome to come to AYSO, and we will not ask them to pay again.

Rich Bushnell, 19 Camelot Road:

Last meeting, we heard all the questions. How do you expect to run a Recreation Program with six volunteers? Last week we made phone calls, asked those willing to help any way then can. Very gratifying results. Now we have 14 adults, junior members, volunteer kids (who need to have service hours to graduate from High School). Trumbull United will sit on our Board and serve as advisors so we can move forward. I don't think we need as many people as was thought in the beginning. Coaches will be volunteers. We will continue growing. Referees, children and adults together...get exercise, kids like it, older teens in town willing to do some concession work...all pitching in and help in their own way.

Financial transactions will be running as an open organization to the public and do Rules and Regulations. We will provide our monthly minutes and budget reports. Meetings always open and welcome to attend. We are now partnered with Trumbull United. Strictly a Recreational Program. Trumbull United the Travel Program. Program moves up to Travel. Would like to use the same fields we had in the past. Just had an on-line registration, our numbers are increasing. In a month we will have our information for scheduling purposes.

Steve Fisher:

A treasure... Reinforce our AYSO soccer program. Coach Recreation Program 30 years. Don't think the town needs two programs. Do the right thing. Everyone will have the opportunity to play soccer. Requesting that we (AYSO) be the Recreation Program that receives permission to use the fields in the town. AYSO spent a lot of time on Kaechele, feel that is a big part of the home for the AYSO Program.

Burt Haimes, AYSO Board Chm.:

In the survey, many findings from the audit report...the audit report speaks for itself. Confidential report...you have taken a trip to England paid for by the program...two-thirds of the budget spent with the contest group is inappropriate to pay referees, both adult and youth. Travel use of assets unauthorized are serious offences and highly inappropriate. Could have let Mr. Watcke step down. The many good years of service he has given to the community. We felt that was not possible. The fact is that there were good folks here who care about what their kids were getting and were excluded from decisions. February, checking account had \$82,000, today less than \$15,000. Bills coming in from MLS Camps after a \$15,000 payment made. Paid for lodging for one board member and wife and billed to AYSO. It was made very clear, they were not intended to continue with AYSO. Scholarships were limited to Board Members' children, the only ones who asked for it. These things distressing to us. One Program run by one person for too long. The average for a Regional Commissioner is 18 months. When they stay as Mr. Watcke did, there is undue influence by the select group of board members. AYSO is now new, the kids feel good, have a good

experience, make sure that this does not become a fear program. Things got distorted. There are a lot of good people involved. Don't know them personally. When I'm not an attorney, I don't get paid a penny from AYSO. I love the organization for the principles we stand for. They don't like the audit and took their marbles to play somewhere else. Make sure the money is being used appropriately...getting a bang for their bucks. Don't think you need to pay \$100,000 for something like MLS Camps. There are free programs. People train and put them on. Regional gets additional help from National. They will get it. We will not let the fact that they have actually paid money get in the way. I do this because I like this organization which I support what we do. Started most programs in Westchester myself over 30 years and hope to continue on. What's the best interest for the children of Trumbull.

Maureen D'Ascanio, 81 Putting Green Road:

First...I don't want to be myopic...but, you said the number of years on the Board is of concern, and you just pointed out you have 30 years. Twenty-seven members of our former AYSO Board voted to leave AYSO. Same management isn't doing it. We were no longer being led by a National Group. We didn't like the surveillance activities as he was doing. Negative philosophy coming forward. Seamless move to Trumbull Teams. Move seamless to the Travel Program. Many have chosen not to go to Trumbull United Program. Trumbull Soccer Club had the option and chose not to go to Trumbull United. Now...force them to move! One child deemed for the Travel Team...others to be dropped. Kids play a sport and being active member of that program, then they don't make the cut. Most trained ones head to the Travel Team...others will be cut. Just don't like the tone...move them seamlessly to Travel.

Mr. Watcke was not to stay in the AYSO Organization. All members upheld by the appeals Board. Regional Director, chose the three auditors, approved them.

Want to mention fields outside your scope. We arranged for School Fields. Park Commission has the desire or mission to choose what group stays in town? One fact not presented by the AYSO Board currently withholding checks...information being withheld from us. If it is not your charge, which survivor...which has your blessing...why we all put in so much time...phone calls, coming back. When you feel you are right, parents and families move and you have to speak for them. What is this all about. No one has given the global picture. Three programs in town? Two in the past. What is the point of this? Develop the Trumbull Soccer Club to give the parents in this town what they want for their children. Not to get professional training. Our parents don't want and want to be trained by professionals. I voted for the MLS money. Asked parents do you like the MLS Training? Do you want something else? The children like having an option. I want to play a lot, but I know I'm not really, really good. They want the same group of friends year after year.

There was mentioned one of the points brought forward, the accounting to National AYSO...not to pay any one...volunteer in the program...No one to get a pay back...\$5 stipend to referees doesn't meet our criteria. But we have a gift card...okay. Parents want them to have a volunteer job to do a game on Saturday. They are only a little token gift. A \$5 gift card an incentive to child and parent. We are here as volunteers, we are here in this role. Trumbull Soccer Club developed from such a large number of people. Wanted us for membership. Trainers much more than our MLS Trainers. What parents want for their child...not forcing them to form allegiance with a group. Make the correct decision. God give you guidance.

Ned McMahon, Huntington Tpke

Coach a few teams. Represent my kids. The kids are going to follow the fields. Mary, Rec. Commission, schedule the field. Teams I coach, are going to follow the field. The families that call me are looking for the kids to play. I think the Trumbull Soccer Group has the best chance because they have the most people. Don't care about the audits and that stuff. Think both will be transparent. Splitting is not going to work.

Joyce Parnell, 32 Oak View Street, Bpt., Area Dir. For AYSO:

A three person panel met only for a recommendation to me. Did not exonerate anyone. It was a fact finding for Board parties between Regional and Local. That's as far as it has gone. Our national Office has done away from that recommendation and come to another step. Passed on to higher levels. No one exonerated on either side, Al Watcke or others.

Bill O'Connell, 261 Edison Road:

We have two separate issues, an Appeal Board separate from any exoneration of Al Watcke. That was on the removal of three members. Board for AYSO were purely about the removal of three Board Members, Al Watcke issue different. Again, for the record, that review went up to Section Director and rejected by the Section Director. Three members were not given due process. They were told Al Watcke issue beyond their scope of what they could do and couldn't do. Communicated this to Mr. Watcke. One of the panel talked to Al Watcke. We felt they were disqualified at that point.

Ed Mallony, 27 Monitor Hill:

Focus on the kids. Shouldn't be about AYSO. Everybody plays. Open registrations. With the program since 1998 as some these from TSC as well. That philosophy worked away from us. National Board left them. Should have been that way when they were in the program. All agree that the kids come first. Don't think the town should get another recreation program...should be under one umbrella. What we are doing is masking the issue. It's about the children and about the program. One program will satisfy the town. Don't have two or three programs for base ball or for Lacross. As adults we should get together and work this out. Seamless fashion...if a child wants to play travel, he can start in town or go with another program. I think we should one unified program for our kids.

Steve Wusenmany, 82 Lorma Avenue:

Moved to Trumbull 7 years ago. Have a young girl who expressed an interest in soccer. Got to be involved with AYSO. I would like to touch on a few things. Everybody wants to compete, play in both Trumbull United and AYSO. Its about the kids. They grow together, they need to stay and play together. Consistently over time. Girls or boys continuity and expand to the next level...high school. Kids will be leaving the programs. We need people to talk about it and address the issue. Beg you to do it. Three clubs will not work. Just not going to happen. Beg you to help put this issue forward. Get both groups together. Please do this as adults, cool heads will prevail. We should have one recreation club and one travel. Everyone will grow for the town of Trumbull.

Perry Molinoff, 39 Lafayette Drive:

Came to listen, not a member of any group here. First, seems a lot of he said, she said. To me, while it would be fantastic to have one organization to handle the different levels of soccer. Can't the town step in. If some want to have their kids play with paid professionals and others without paid trainers, let them. Town of Trumbull's going to tell you how to play

soccer? Town's fields are for the people. Children have the right to play on the fields. Whatever option the parents chose makes better sense for their own child. There are 1,000/1,500 soccer children. Parents are baffled. If I go to one group or the other, will my children get to play. I have been a coach for many years, recently a Travel Coach. What are we supposed to do. We should be able to tell them, "Pick the one you like and your children will play."

Joan Dosky, 20 Quaker Lane:

With Trumbull United Soccer Club. Past with AYSO. For 20 years or more. Trumbull soccer one of the most successful in the State. Not here about the split with AYSO. Members have met with both AYSO and Trumbull Soccer Club. An agreement reached with AYSO. We should have one recreation league and one travel. We are willing to give up much of our own philosophy to give one cohesive program. Okay you keep AYSO. Yes we will run the travel team. Met with Trumbull Soccer Club, discussed everything, any ideas. No disagreements. We walked away thinking one recreational program, one travel program and have not heard back from them. Told now lot of teams coming over to them. They had to have professional trainers, no youth and parents. Agreement between Trumbull United Soccer and AYSO. Umbrella when team plays under us. We will help with coaching and training if they need. Nothing will be cut as uniforms. Trumbull United always wanted one travel program and one recreation program. Open our teams for children, change our philosophy slightly to accommodate them. When you talk with the kids, U16 and U18 grew up on Select and Tr. United. Just want to play with their friends all together. It's a partnership with AYSO. They have a desire just to run the Recreation Program, and we still the Travel.

John Dorris, 24 Baily Street:

Three girls play soccer. We were with AYSO and Trumbull United's premier team. I feel that two teams can't exist in town. They will be contrary...everybody plays/or selected to play. The town has had soccer for 25 years...I'm still for two teams.

Ed Mallony, 27 Monitor Hill:

AYSO team you have two teams in town ...at the travel level, hard to work with. Two programs you will have two player-pools outmaneuvering each other to get the best kids. Don't think the AYSO ever had a travel program for twenty years (more like last 8 years). Have a program with another adult group in town bragging that we have a better program, not good. With out a doubt, one program is the way to go. Trumbull United is willing to open up and alter their philosophy to do what's best for the kids. Trumbull AYSO will have the ability to continue coaching with that new program. Many parents are asking when are we going to have one program, two who can't get together not good. With Trumbull Soccer Organization we would then have two recreation programs and two travel programs. Trumbull Soccer looking to pull kids into their program; AYSO doing the same thing. Dilutes the program in town. If it's about the kids, Town of Trumbull wants and should want the best program for the kids, period...end of story. If the program isn't good, that will be fine. Two groups working against each other will not accomplish a unified program. Work as one, under the Town of Trumbull, be unified.

Al Watcke, 2949 Reservoir Avenue:

Connecticut Jr. Soccer voted today for us in Wethersfield. Think we know what we are doing. Started travel because parents came to us. They would have 14,15,16 kids on the travel team and only the first 12 play...those left sit on the bench and watch. We then did four travel teams. Tried to do something better for the kids. Think we are doing something right in the program. We have parents that work for the kids. Not for power. AYSO doing the same thing. Innuendos and lies being spread. What they're not hearing was...we are exonerated. That hearing report stinks..and was a good reason for us to pull out.

Trumbull United acceptance of people...they will get the 12 teams they lost with us. They want to take the teams over that they lost over the years. Coaches decided to stay with us... stay as a group. Their philosophy...they can run it for some people. We run our program differently with no volunteer coaches. Next door neighbor coaching, I understand. Who's to say no to him, we have to have a paid trainer. Why do we have to have a paid trainer and no more volunteer coaches?

This is what we do. We did run the travel team, we did run the recreation, we are working together for the kids. No intention going there, we want to stay with the group. People are coming out...they are coming. Nothing going to be really different. Same people running it. Which is the way it's been. I think we are doing the best job.

Sharon Lomnitzer, 42 Peaceful Valley:

Here for the Great Oak Park issue; but, know people on both sides of the soccer issue. Very sad you have to deal with this split in town which I have seen before in Fairfield. I have three children in soccer...AYSO, Trumbull United, THS Varsity to college. Urge with you to bring these two groups together. These issues can be hashed out for the kids sake and your sake in making decisions.

David Allen, 91 Pembereton Drive:

Been with AYSO 15 years. On Board before Al Watcke...on the original time. Currently chief coach with at High School. Also very sympathetic to Al Watcke and this board here. When I first started out with 500 kids. Taught at Trumbull High School. Built a soccer program at THS myself. Al helped out. Then we heard about Kaechele land. Al Watcke and Rick Bushnell involved in working with the Town and got the Town to do the fields there, in time AYTISO built the soccer building. Funds came from the children over many years. Worked on the project for many, many years. We talked with Ken Halaby, started the project with us. Once we got done, we turned it over to the Town. The Town of Trumbull knew that's what our intent was. We worked on that building ourselves, many people put the time in to building that building. Even though we are fractured at the moment, everybody put the time in to build that a building. Don't know what's going on with the AYSO program. Can tell you right now, I never saw National Board Members come to us for any reason in Trumbull. This is the first time. Don't understand why we are trying to do what we are trying to do. Trumbull United Board with AYSO? Give them access to Kaechele fields. They never did any work there. They want access to the Kaechele Field property...the premier facility here in Trumbull. In all 15 years, AYSO never paid a referee. The children, 14/15 years old, who helped out were given a stipend like we were talking about. The Scholarship Program been around at least 15 to 20 years. Open to anyone wishing to apply. A percent were Board Members...happened to be the ones putting the time in at the concession stands, picking up.

At least 7/8 of those scholarships went to kids with no affiliation to the Board at all. Don't understand the Panel that reviewed the case with parties of AYSP. One was assistant coach in Monroe. That panel found no cause here. National meeting, Diane Mayo attended with 30 or 40 others, said that the panel was a binding board. That was stated. Regarding the whole soccer thing here could be folded together as one unit. I don't see the two boards getting together at this time. One shouldn't be dissolved. Let them pursue their team members. Two groups have existed and should have no problem continuing in Trumbull this way.

Steve Fisher, 10 Meadow Circle:

One question is why so many people working so hard with AYSO to suddenly leave the organization after 30 years. Don't think they just left AYSO. Suddenly not wanted by National staff coming to town. There's a responsibility to sign onto their policies and procedures. Reasons that I have heard, not so much to offer different program, but not to have the financial over-site of National staff is why they no longer can accept them. Signed over the field house. That occurred before the set-up of the Trumbull Soccer Club. Fighting Over the field house. They have formed a club that is rejecting oversight.

Beth Stoller, 92 Ridgeview Road:

Treasurer of new group. Was treasurer of AYSO. Started back years ago. Introduced by Rich Bushnell to AYSO who needed a Treasurer for travel team. I have worked with everybody over the past years. It would be good if someone could put this all together. been in. As for the trip to England, it was a good learning experience. Things that other Board members don't like should be taken up before the full board. Can't have a board with two parts. Everybody needs to be a part of it and together. Nothing was found in the audit. Addressed many times over. Asked to speak to the people doing the audit...never happened. Questioned spending of \$80,000. If information was requested, we gave it. Didn't spent anything different than other years. Nothing done wrong. Everything we are going to spend comes by the Board. Trumbull Soccer Travel is different from Trumbull United (and Premier). They want to stay with new group. Their differences are why they can't play together. Nothing different about us. Want to play with MLS Trainers. 26 people pick up and leave. Want to continue to bring a program to town.

Robert Wright, 78 Red Barn Road, President of Trumbull United:

Happy to be here. We sincerely want to bring the whole soccer group together. That's why we are putting an alliance together with AYSO and still want to include Trumbull Youth Soccer. We are also about the kids, about teaching. Clearly, we would grandfather all, allow them to use our paid coaches, use their own uniforms, keep their colors, their own trainers and coaches. We do have Premier, we will also move them into that program. We will work in a spirit of cooperation to bring the whole program together. Very willing to work with everybody...for the whole community to get together on this. We are doing everything possible to take both organizations on. Would hope we could get together with everybody from that standpoint. Better for training, for communication, for facilities and for the kids.

Jim Walsy, 18 Wildwood:

Great Oak Park concern. As a parent with a six year ole in the Program. It builds self confidence, express herself and work with others. Signed up again for next year. To be honest, not sure either group hears what they are doing, can't work together. Want kids to play together. I am going to take by ball...you go home, I'm going home. Sports are very

important. Helps being a team player. Town loves sports. Hope these 2 or 3 groups can get together and figure what to do. Parents don't know who they should sign up with, and kids don't get the experience to play. Think of the children...go to play and find out that these two groups hate each other!

Mr. Alan:

AYUSO building turned over before split up. Took us that long to get the approvals from the Town departments...release all the permits.

Jim Fracker, 78 Old Dyke Road:

Eighteen years with recreation and on to select program. Good friends on both sides. Hard to get here. We have gotten 16 teams. Trumbull United did not agree with a lot of the philosophy and people who were running it. It's a whole different program. We have talked in detail with Trumbull United and AYSO. Together we could be the strongest program in the state. Pure Recreation and pure Travel. Not trying to hurt anyone from the Trumbull Soccer Organization. Don't want to say anything about anyone. Both worked hard on the field house. AYSO 186 is continuing in the town of Trumbull. Hope that this Commission votes on that for One Recreation Program and One Travel Program. Bring long-term solution to the problem. That's all anyone could ask.

Fred Baker, 902 Daniels Farm Road:

Building built on Town property. Town Building turned over to the Town of Trumbull. Doesn't belong to any one organization, but to the Town.

Greg Tilson, 194 Lake Avenue:

What your purpose is should be to make sure the most number of kids play soccer. The number that want to play Saturday Recreation and Sunday Travel. Volunteered with AYSO 7 years as a travel coach. We would like our children to play at Kaechele. It's the jewel much like Unity Park for Little League and Babe Ruth. Parents and kids follow the field. Two organizations, 500 each should be split 50/50. Whose refrigerator in the concession? They're going to have to figure that out. Do we have multiple softball teams in town? You have to play on the men's team or women's team. You guys magically figure out where they play. Move kids to all the fields to play. Numbers warrant who gets to play at Kaechele.

Chairman closed comments session.

CONSENSUS to recess at 9:35 p.m. for 10 minutes.

CONSENSUS to reconvene 9:55 p.m.

Amanda Naqvi, 1223 Avalon Gates, for Stroller Strides:

A mother of a six month old child, came across a really good idea and became involved with Stroller Strides, a fitness program for new moms and their babies combining power walking, body toning, strength and flexibility exercises using both the environment and the stroller. Classes are taught by a certified fitness professional, engage the children throughout the class through songs and activities. They do their walking exercises in 60 malls across the country and in parks. They never take up any space, constantly moving, can organize park cleanups, as well as include town in their press releases. After the class, there is a play period for the children, supports the new parents. There's not much to do with the under 5 group and this program is good for Moms and children. They are usually in groups of 10 moms. She requests permission to start a class in Trumbull parks.

MOTION by Mr. Chmielewski, second by Dr. Bellows, unanimously passed to return to the order of the Agenda.

Town Attorney Vito Mazza:

Clarified exactly the Commission's authority with regard to park property. He indicated the Park Commission has exclusive control over the Parks within their authority. It can designate what clubs can use your parks, you can chose one group over another and you can make that decision.

MOTION by Dr. Bellows, second by Mr. Chmielewski, unanimously passed to accept the minutes of the June Meeting and the Special Meeting of June 26 as distributed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion on issue of Park Stickers.

Mr. Vonick felt that as a Commission we should vote to request a Supplemental Appropriation from the Board of Finance and Town Council.

Mr. Chmielewski felt it important to go forward with bringing park stickers up to date. Discussed extensively, think we should go ahead with it.

Mr. Scippa questioned are we going to be able to do this. Finance Board on the Agenda. Special Appropriation. It was denied by the First Selectman, B.O.F. and T.C. through the budget process. He would also like to hear whether the Park Rangers are experiencing in the town parks

Mr. Cellini questioned who would administer the program.

Recreation Director said her department has been doing them right along. This is something to discuss further, many facets to distribution...ie. Leased vehicles, vehicles registered in other states, mail out, or issue from Recreation Office, Stickers would have to change every year or two for real control.

Mr. Cellini: Said he didn't see a lot of abuse in the parks.

Mr. Ferrigno: Primarily there are just a few towns who don't have stickers for their park use. We have a lot of facilities, and do we want to protect them for the town of Trumbull residents.

Mr. Chmielewski: Important for the resident in town, living in town to have stickers.

Mr. Ferrigno indicated that the Rangers work with tournaments etc when they in our parks, so that's not a problem.

Mr. Scippa commented that he feels real strongly that the town of Trumbull should have Vehicle Park Stickers.

Mr. Vonick: Are we in agreement we should go forward with stickers in general?

CONSENSUS was to go forward.

MOTION by Mr. Vonick, second by Mr. Cellini, unanimously approved that the Commission is in favor of issuing new Vehicle Park Stickers and will request the Board of Finance to favorable consider a Supplemental Appropriation in an amount to be determined to cover the cost of the purchase and distribution of Vehicle Identification Park Stickers for the residents of Trumbull.

Recreation Director cautioned that once the funding is addressed, we need to address the many issues involved with distribution.

Soccer Issue:

Chairman expressed to those guests in attendance that the Commission is going to consider their thoughts. We will hold off on a decision tonight. Action on the issue of fields will be tabled to another meeting.

Great Oak Proposal:

The resolution presented limits the ability of control of park land within our system. The Town Attorney noted that even if the Park Commission decided to accept the restriction on the land, another administration could over-ride that decision at any point in time.

The consensus was that the Park Commission doesn't see the rationale to encumber this property.

Mr. Scippa noted that the property was purchased for recreational activities. Not that we want to do anything right now; but, perhaps 20 years from now the Town may want to do something in there.

MOTION by Dr. Bellows, second by Mr. Scippa, unanimously passed to **DENY** proposed Resolution concerning Great Oak Park stating:

"Be it resolved that the Town of Trumbull shall designate Great Oaks Park for land preservation to remain in its natural state in perpetuity and the Town of Trumbull shall record Restrictive Covenant on the Land Records to that effect".

Stroller Strides Program:

Consensus was that it was a nice program for new mothers, grandmothers and could be a good Recreation Program with perhaps a stipend per member, the current request is a franchised regional business.

MOTION by Mr. DeSabia, second by Mr. Chmielewski, unanimously passed to **DENY** request to offer the Stroller Strides Program in the Town of Trumbull parks as it is a for-profit franchise regional business.

Island Brook Park Artificial Field Installation Funding Request:

It is thought that our request for Supplemental Bonding funds to move from a natural turf field at Island Brook Park to an artificial turf field, may not be considered favorably so close to the fiscal year begin and we may want to withdraw our request to the Board of Finance for its August meeting as they will not meet in July and continue with preparations for a natural turf field. It is felt by the Commission that the cost review prepared and submitted to the Board of Finance supports that the Artificial Turf Field is the more responsible long-term field installation and should be pursued.

MOTION by Mrs. Riccio, second by Dr. Bellows, unanimously passed to continue to pursue funding for the Artificial Turf Field at the August Meeting of the Board of Finance.

MOTION to adjourn at 11:05 p.m. by Mr. Cellini, second by Mrs. Riccio and unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted:

Joan E. Plouffe
Clerical Administrative Assistant

**PARK COMMISSION
JULY 9, 2007
MOTIONS**

MOTION by Mr. DeSabia, second by Mr. Scippa, and unanimously passed to change the order of the Agenda to hear guests first.

MOTION by Mr. Chmielewski, second by Dr. Bellows, unanimously passed to return to the order of the Agenda.

MOTION by Dr. Bellows, second by Mr. Chmielewski, unanimously passed to accept the minutes of the June Meeting and the Special Meeting of June 26 as distributed.

Mr. Vonick: Are we in agreement we should go forward with stickers in general?

CONSENSUS was to go forward.

MOTION by Mr. Vonick, second by Mr. Celline, unanimously approved that the Commission is in favor of issuing new Vehicle Park Stickers and will request the Board of Finance to favorable consider a Supplemental Appropriation in an amount to be determined to cover the cost of the purchase and distribution of Vehicle Identification Park Stickers for the residents of Trumbull.

MOTION by Dr. Bellows, second by Mr. Scippa, unanimously passed to **DENY** proposed Resolution concerning Great Oak Park stating:

"Be it resolved that the Town of Trumbull shall designate Great Oaks Park for land preservation to remain in its natural state in perpetuity and the Town of Trumbull shall record Restrictive Covenant on the Land Records to that effect".

Stroller Strides Program:

Consensus was that it was a nice program for new mothers, grandmothers and could be a good Recreation Program with perhaps a stipend per member, the current request is a franchised regional business.

MOTION by Mr. DeSabia, second by Mr. Chmielewski, unanimously passed to **DENY** request to offer the Stroller Strides Program in the Town of Trumbull parks as it is a for-profit franchise regional business.

MOTION by Mrs. Riccio, second by Dr. Bellows, unanimously passed to continue to pursue funding for the Artificial Turf Field at the August Meeting of the Board of Finance.

MOTION to adjourn at 11:05 p.m. by Mr. Cellini, second by Mrs. Riccio and unanimously passed.

